

§Appl. No. 10/067,482
Amdt. dated February 14, 2006
Reply to Office Action of, November 17, 2005

REMARKS

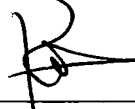
Claims 8 and 9 have been cancelled, rendering the rejections of them under §112, first and second paragraphs and §102 moot. This is not an acquiescence to the grounds of the rejection or a surrender of such subject matter, but is for the purpose of expediting allowance of the subject matter indicated as allowed. See, Office action dated November 17, 2005, "Summary" and Page 7, last line. Applicant reserves the right to pursue any canceled subject matter in continuing applications.

Furthermore, rejoinder of Claims 15 and 17 is respectfully requested. See, e.g., M.P.E.P. 821.04(b).

In view of the above remarks, favorable reconsideration is courteously requested. If there are any remaining issues which could be expedited by a telephone conference, the Examiner is courteously invited to telephone counsel at the number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,



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